

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-9, 13 and 49 are currently pending. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 11 and 12, and claims 11 and 12 have been canceled. Claims 3, 7, and 9 have been amended to improve readability. Claims 2 and 10 have been canceled as unnecessary. Claims 14-48, which are drawn to non-elected subject matter, have been canceled in the present amendment without prejudice of or disclaimer to the subject matter of the claims. Applicant reserves the right to pursue these claims in a continuation and/or divisional application. Claim 49 has been added. Support for claim 49 can be found in the specification, paragraph [0039]. As such, no new matter has been introduced by claim 49.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication by the Office that claim 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim, claim 1, and any intervening claims, claim 11. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 11 and 12, and claims 11 and 12 have been canceled. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claim 1 is allowable. These amendments are made solely to expedite prosecution, and do not represent acquiescence by Applicant to any rejections.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Syak et al. (U.S. Patent 3,182,762).

As discussed above, the amended claim 1 is allowable. Claims 3, 4, 5 and 7 depend from claim 1. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3, 4, 5 and 7 are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claims 1, 6, 7, 9 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Moore (U.S. Patent 1,547,672).

Claims 6, 7 and 9 depend from the allowable claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 6, 7 and 9 are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 8 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Syak et al. (U.S. Patent 3,182,762) in view of Ashton et al. (U.S. Patent 6,546,678).

Claims 8 and 13 depend from the allowable claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8 and 13 are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion


Based on the reasons as set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of rejections and allowance of all pending claims.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this paper, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone Applicant's undersigned representative so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 18, 2006

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